



THE STEAMTOWN MUSEUM

Steamtown, U.S.A. features one of the world's largest collections of steam locomotives and Steam Age equipment. The nucleus of the collection is the result of years of acquisitions by the museum's founder, the late F. Nelson Blount. Recognizing that the Steam Age was on the verge of becoming history during the 1950's, Blount had the foresight and financial resources to save many classic pieces from the scrapper's torch. Blount dreamed of building America's largest and finest operating steam museum, but unfortunately, he never saw his dream materialize as he was killed in an airplane crash in 1967. His beloved collection was left to the non-profit, educational Steamtown Foundation whose Board of Trustees has continued to support the living museum concept.

Today, Steamtown maintains a link with one of the most important eras in American history—the Steam Age. Nearly 100 pieces of steam era equipment and railroad rolling stock are exhibited on an 88-acre outdoor site. Railroad displays dominate with locomotives ranging in size from tiny switchers to the massive Union Pacific "Big Boy" (a 600-ton monster, the largest steam locomotive ever built). Among its more notable displays, the museum boasts an American (4-4-0) type built in 1887 which helped conquer the Wild West, Grand Trunk Western Mountain-type, no. 6039, the last active main-line steamer in New England, is on display along with Canadian Pacific's classic Jubilee, no. 2929—one of a very few surviving examples of streamlined steam power. Famous excursion locomotives like "Reading Rambles" no. 2124 and Nickle Plate Berkshire no. 759 are at Steamtown, too. Most of the railroad equipment is arranged around a 90-foot turntable, attractively arranged for viewing and photography.

A major effort is currently underway to restore many of the museum's exhibits. Steamtown invites you to come and view the progress as the museum actively "Builds the Past into America's Future." We're sure a leisurely visit to the Steamtown Museum will give you a fascinating glimpse into an important era in American history—the days when Steam was King.

Steamtown occasionally sponsors special excursions. The 1983 season includes two 100-mile round trip excursions to Rutland, Vt. over the scenic Green Mountain Railroad on October 22nd and 23rd. Write for details.

Charter operation of Steamtown equipment may be arranged for film and television productions, publicity and advertising campaigns, etc. Call or write Steamtown for details.



THE VERMONT VALLEY RAILROAD

You can relive the past—the days when America rode the rails—by taking a train ride on the Vermont Valley Railroad. The Vermont Valley Railroad features a 22-mile roundtrip excursion through scenic Vermont countryside on a railroad right-of-way that is over a century old. Following the Conductor's familiar "ALL ABOARD," your train departs Riverside Station (adjacent to the world-famous Steamtown, U.S.A. museum) for a 1 1/2-hour ride to Chester Depot and return. The train passes the huge Steamtown collection and then swings alongside the Connecticut River affording passengers a spectacular view of the Connecticut River Valley and begins to follow the twisting, tumbling Williams River which you'll cross seven times before reaching Chester. At Rockingham you'll cross a high, spidery trestle after which the train's locomotive will begin laboring heavily as it assaults the 2 1/2% grade of Rockingham Hill. The grade levels off at Brockway Mills where the railroad passes over a spectacular gorge—it's a breathtaking 100-foot drop from the railroad tracks to the waters of the Williams River which wind their way through the rocks below. North of Brockway Mills, your train passes through typical Vermont farm country. At Bartonville you'll see two century-old covered bridges—both still in daily use. A Victorian style station, well over 100 years old, greets the train upon arrival at the northern terminal of Chester Depot. Here passengers have time to photograph the old station and the picturesque town hall nearby, or the train's locomotive as it runs around the passenger cars in preparation for the return trip to Riverside. On the southbound journey, your train will slow down at the Bartonville covered bridge and the Brockway Mills gorge for picture taking.

The Vermont Valley Railroad operates via a lease agreement over the tracks of a working, standard gauge, common carrier railroad.

All of the Vermont Valley's historic equipment is authentic railroad rolling stock. The open-window coaches date from the 1920's and were built for such railroads as the Jersey Central, the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western and the Long Island. Usual motive power is a steam locomotive from the Steamtown collection. On occasion, a steam-era vintage diesel locomotive from the Green Mountain Railroad may be called upon to pull the train. Regardless of the equipment used on a given day, the Vermont Valley Railroad provides passengers with a relaxing, nostalgic excursion over one of America's most scenic rail lines.

The Vermont Valley Railroad reserves the right to change, without notice, times, train make-up and utilize steam or diesel locomotives as required.



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